



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/288,294	04/08/1999	ICHIRO NAKANO	1046.1197/JD	7278

21171 7590 08/09/2002

STAAS & HALSEY LLP  
700 11TH STREET, NW  
SUITE 500  
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

EXAMINER

BUI, PHAT T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 08/09/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/288,294

Applicant(s)

NAKANO, ICHIRO

Examiner

Phat T Bui

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 April 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☒ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Title*

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.
2. The abstract is over 150 words. A new abstract is required that is clearly indicative of the invention and less than 150 words in length.
3. This action is responsive to: application filed on 04/08/1999.
4. Claims 1-23 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 17, 22 and 23 are independent claims.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
6. **Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 17, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sumita et al. (Sumita), US 6,092,091 filed 09/12/1997, in view of Saitoh, US 6,178,434 B1 filed 02/13/1998.**

**Regarding independent claim 1, Sumita teaches a display device for displaying hypertext data including link information indicating an existence of a link to other data comprising:**

- a designating unit for designating informing data corresponding to the link information for the other data to be acquired from among informing data showing the presence of link information in the hypertext data displayed on a display. Sumita describes, "a device for filtering information ...wherein the presentation of the hypertexts by the presenting means is conducted on hypertexts of similarities computed by the similarity computing means equal to or more than a predetermined value," (Sumita, col. 7, lines 16-20).
- First information acquiring unit for acquiring information showing a location of the displayed hypertext data including the informing data designated by the designating unit. Sumita describes, "detecting means for detecting a hypertext, newly created or updated, among hypertexts of from an hypertext with an address specified in advance being an object for filtering up to a hypertext in a position specified in advance in a hierchy by comparison between the hypertext being an object for filtering and a fundamental hypertext which is used for detecting a hypertext, newly created or updated," (Sumita, col. 6, lines 58-64).
- Second information acquiring unit for acquiring the link information specified by the informing data designated by the designating unit. Sumita describes, "second storage means for storing fundamental document data for detection of documents newly created or updated," (Sumita, col. 5, lines 26-27).
- A data acquiring unit for acquiring the hypertext data from the location according to the location information and the other data indicated by the link

information, both the location information and the link information are stored in the storage unit. Sumita describes, "the reference document detecting unit detects documents which refer to top –nodes set in the monitored document address stored unit. When documents which refer to a specified document are obtained, all the documents stored in database are obtained and documents which each of obtained document refers to are obtained, so that the referring document can be obtained," (Sumita, col. 32, lines 53-58).

Sumita does not teach a storage unit for storing the location information acquired by the first information acquired unit and the link information acquired by the second information.

Saitoh teaches:

- A storage unit for storing the location information acquired by the first information acquired unit and the link information acquired by the second information acquiring unit for the correspondence to each other. Saitoh describes, "the image input unit inputs a text image into the automatic link generation system. The data storage unit stores the image data and other data," (Saitoh, col. 32, lines 53-58, also Figure 2, element 108).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita and Saitoh's teachings, since hypertext data that are acquired or collected needs to have a storage place such as, a storing device or a storing unit to store this information.

**Regarding dependent claim 2**, which is dependent on claim 1, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 1 as explained above. Sumita does not teach a data storage unit for storing the hypertext data and the other data acquired by the data acquiring unit.

However, Saitoh teaches a display device comprising a data storage unit for storing the hypertext data and the other data acquired by the data acquiring unit. Saitoh describes, "the data storage unit stores the image data and other data," (Saitoh, col. 3, lines 57-58).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita and Saitoh's teachings, since all data needs a storage place so that it can be stored or accessed.

**Regarding dependent claim 5**, which is dependent on claim 1, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 1 as explained above. Saitoh does not teach an event detecting unit for detecting appointed event wherein when the event detecting unit detects the event, the data acquiring unit acquires the hypertext data from the location according to the location information and the other data indicated by the link information.

However, Sumita teaches an event detecting unit for detecting appointed event wherein when the event detecting unit detects the event, the data acquiring unit acquires the hypertext data from the location according to the location information and the other data indicated by the link information. Sumita describes, "the updated detecting unit receives an update time for each address stored in the monitored

document address storing unit and if the updating time is later than a previous time of update detection, the address of the document is stored in the updated document information storing unit," (col. 25, lines 34-40).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, and Saitoh's teachings since a detecting unit would have detected a link information, this would correspond to hypertext data acquired at a particular point in time.

**Regarding independent claim 6**, Sumita teaches a method for displaying hypertext data comprising:

- a step of designating informing data corresponding to the link information for the other data to be acquired from among informing data which show the presence of link information in the hypertext data. Sumita describes, "detecting means for detecting a hypertext, newly created or updated, among hypertexts of from an hypertext with an address specified," (Sumita, col. 6, line 58-59).
- A step of acquiring information which shows a location of the displayed hypertext data including the designated informing data and a step of acquiring link information specified by the designated informing data. Sumita describes, "detecting means for detecting a hypertext, newly created or updated, among hypertexts of from an hypertext with an address specified in advance being an object for filtering up to a hypertext in a position specified in advance in a hierarchy by comparison between the hypertext being an object

for filtering and a fundamental hypertext which is used for detecting a hypertext, newly created or updated," (Sumita, col. 6, lines 59-64).

- A step of acquiring the hypertext data from the location according to the stored location information and other data indicated by the stored link information. Sumita describes, "detecting a hypertext, newly created or updated, among hypertexts of from an hypertext with an address specified in advance," (Sumita, col. 8, lines 27-27).

Sumita does not teach a step of acquiring link information specified by the designated informing data.

Saitoh teaches:

- a method of acquiring link information specified by the designated informing data. Saitoh describes, "the image input unit inputs a text image into the automatic link generation system," (Saitoh, col. 3, lines 55-57).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita and Saitoh's teachings, since the location of a hypertext data would have specified the linking information.

**Regarding independent claim 10**, Sumita teaches the steps of:

- a step of designating informing data corresponding to the link information for the other data to be acquired from among informing data which shows the presence of link information in the hypertext data. Sumita describes, "a unit and method for monitoring update in documents, in which it is made possible to



efficiently detect and notify a use of updates in documents having a hypertext structure," (Sumita, col. 5 lines 13-17).

- a step of acquiring information which shows a location of the hypertext data displayed including the designated informing data. Sumita describes, "among hypertexts from an hypertext with an address specified in advance being an object for filtering up a hypertext in a position specified in advance," (Sumita, col. 6, lines 59-61).
- a step of storing the acquired location information and the acquired link information of the hypertext data for the correspondence to each other and location according to the stored location information and the other data indicated by the stored link information. Sumita describes, "specifying an address showing a storage location for a document of a monitoring object and documents having hierarchical structure with a document as a starting point as a group," (Sumita, col. 10, lines 43-46).

Sumita does not teach a step of acquiring link information specified by the designated informing data.

Saitoh teaches:

- a step of acquiring link information specified by the designated informing data. Saitoh describes, "a link generation unit connected to the reference area determination unit and the character recognition unit for generating a link between the reference area and a corresponding one of the text portion based upon the characters," (Saitoh, col. 2, lines 45-49).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Sumita and Saitoh's teachings, since a plurality of steps are needed so that a plurality of units could be connected to the network for them to be able to communicate an link necessary information together.

**Regarding independent claim 11**, Sumita teaches a display device for displaying hypertext data including link information indicating an existence of a link to other data, comprising:

- a designation unit for designating informing data corresponding to the link information for the other data to be acquired from among informing data showing the presence of link information in the hypertext data. Sumita describes, " it is a further object of the present invention to provide a unit and method for monitoring update in documents, in which it is made possible to efficiently detect and notify a use of updates in documents having a hypertext structure," (Sumita, col. 5, lines 13-17).
- a judging unit to judge whether the other data should be acquired based on the link information designated by the designating unit. Sumita describes, "deciding means for deciding on whether or not a detected hypertext by the detecting means includes a plurality of information units," (Sumita, col. 7, lines 33-35).

Sumita does not teach a step of a controlling unit for acquiring the other data

according to the designated link information when it is judged that the other data should be acquired, and for storing the designated link information in designated information storage unit when it is judged that the other data should not be acquired.

Saitoh teaches:

- a controlling unit for acquiring the other data

according to the designated link information when it is judged that the other data should be acquired, and for storing the designated link information in designated information storage unit when it is judged that the other data should not be acquired. Saitoh describes, "a character recognition unit connected to the inputting unit for recognizing characters in the image including the reference area," (Saitoh, col. 2, lines 43-45).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita and Saitoh's teachings since linking of the designated information such as hypertext data, would have been stored in the computer's memory or the computer's database upon recognition of such data.

**Regarding independent claim 17**, Sumita teaches a display device for displaying hypertext data including link information indicating an existence of a link to other data, comprising:

- a specific information storage unit for storing first specific link information and second specific link information. Sumita describes, "the device comprising a document database storing document data to be filtered, a reproduced document information storing unit storing fundamental document data used

Art Unit: 2176

for detection of documents, newly created or updated," (Sumita, in the Abstract).

- A designating unit for designating informing data corresponding to the link information for the other data to be acquired from among informing data showing the presence of link information in the hypertext data displayed on a display. Sumita describes, "it is a further object of the present invention to provide a unit and method for monitoring update in documents, in which it is made possible to efficiently detect and notify a use of updates in documents having a hypertext structure," (Sumita, col. 5, lines 13-17).
- A selecting unit for selecting either the first specific link information or the second specific information stored in the specific information storage unit. Sumita describes, "first storage means for storing document data to be filtered, second storage means for storing fundamental document data for detection of documents newly created or updated; detection means for detecting the documents newly created or updated among the document data stored in the first storage means based on the document data stored in the first storage means and the fundamental document data stored in the second storage means," (Sumita, col. 5, lines 24-32).

Sumita does not teach a controlling unit for acquiring the other data according to the designated link information when it is judged that the designated link information agree with the selected specific link information, and for storing the designated link

information in a designated information storage unit when it is judged that the designated link information do not agree with the selected specific link information.

Saitoh teaches:

- teach a controlling unit for acquiring the other data according to the designated link information when it is judged that the designated link information agree with the selected specific link information, and for storing the designated link information in a designated information storage unit when it is judged that the designated link information do not agree with the selected specific link information. Saitoh describes, "a character recognition unit connected to the inputting unit for recognizing characters in the image including the reference area; and a link generation unit connected to the reference area determination unit and the character recognition unit for generating a link between the reference area and a corresponding one of the text portion based upon the characters," (Saitoh, col. 2, lines 43-49).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita and Saitoh's teachings , since the selecting unit would have selected the link information for the controlling unit to acquire data such as hypertext data or HTML.

**Regarding independent claim 22**, Sumita teaches a method comprising:

- a step of designating informing data corresponding to the link information for the other data to be acquired from among informing data showing the presence of link information in the hypertext data displayed on a display.

Sumita describes, "splitting means for splitting the detected hypertext by the detecting means into respective information units, (Sumita, col. 7, lines 36-37).

- A step of judging whether the other data should be acquired based on the link information designated by the designating mean. Sumita describes, "deciding means for deciding on whether or not a detected hypertext by the detecting means includes a plurality of information units," (Sumita, col. 7, lines 34-36).

Sumita does not teach a step of acquiring the other data according to the designated link information in designated information storage means when it is judged that the other data should not be acquired.

Saitoh teaches:

- a step of acquiring the other data according to the designated link information in designated information storage means when it is judged that the other data should not be acquired. Saitoh describes, "the data storage unit stores the image data and other data. The structure expression unit expresses the structural or link relationships among the segments, portions and areas using a predetermined expression such as HTML," (Saitoh, col. 3, lines 57-61).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita and Saitoh's teachings, since the designating unit would have informed the judging unit of what link information or data to acquire and judged.

**Regarding independent claim 23, Sumita teaches:**

- a step of judging whether the other data should be acquired based on the link information designated by the designating means. Sumita describes, "information which is used to trace through hierarchical positions of a referential relation for documents is stored in the updated document address storing unit. It is because it is not necessary to obtain the content of a document in order to achieve only an update time thereof and the update time can be efficiently checked," (Sumita, col. 28, lines 20-25).
- A step of acquiring the other data according to the designated link information when it is judged that the other data should be acquired, and of storing the designated link information in information storage means when it is judged that the other data should not be acquired. Sumita describes, "it is a further object of the present invention to provide a unit and method for monitoring update in documents, in which it is made possible to efficiently detect and notify a use of updates in documents having a hypertext structure, which documents are updated irregularly like a Web page," (Sumita, col. 5, lines 13-18).

Sumita does not teach a step of designation informing data corresponding to the link information for other data to be acquired from among informing data showing the presence of link information in the hypertext data displayed on a display.

Saitoh teaches:

- a step of designation informing data corresponding to the link information for other data to be acquired from among informing data showing the presence of

link information in the hypertext data displayed on a display. Saitoh describes, "After the links are generated, an organization unit generates another set of link data such as HTML-based data for representing the links in an efficient manner," (Saitoh, col. 4, lines 44-46).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita and Saitoh's teachings, since since the plurality of units would have to be connected to the network for them to be able to communicate and transfer linked information and data to one another.

**7. Claims 3, 16, 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sumita in view of Saitoh as applied to claims 1, 11 and 17 above, and further in view of Omtzigt, US 6,023,759 filed 09/30/1997.**

**Regarding dependent claim 3**, which is dependent on claim 1, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 1 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach an event generating unit for generating an event at an appointed time.

However, Omtzigt teaches an event generating unit for generating an event at an appointed time. Omtzigt describes, "the events are captured by EGU (event generating unit) in real time while the events are taking place," (Omtzigt, col. 3, lines 61-64).

Sumita also does not teach a data acquiring unit which acquires the hypertext data from the location according to the location information and the other data indicated by the link information when the event generating unit generates the event.



However, Saitoh teaches a data acquiring unit which acquires the hypertext data from the location according to the location information and the other data indicated by the link information when the event generating unit generates the event. Saitoh describes, "the structure expression unit expresses the structural or link relationships among the segments, portions and areas using a predetermine expression such as HTML," (Saitoh, col. 3, lines 58-61).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Omtzigt's teachings since there is a time association for each event that is generated or each link that is performed.

**Regarding dependent claim 16**, which is dependent on claim 11, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 11 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach an event detecting unit for detecting an appointed event. Further Sumita does not teach a data acquiring unit for acquiring the data from the location according to the link information stored in the information storage unit when the event detecting unit detects the event.

However, Omtzigt teaches an event detecting unit for detecting an appointed event. Omtzigt describes, "the events are captured by event generating unit in real time while the events are taking place," (Omtzigt, col. 3, lines 61-64). Saitoh teaches a data acquiring unit for acquiring the data from the location according to the link information stored in the information storage unit when the event detecting unit detects the event. Saitoh describes, " the structure expression unit expresses the structural or link

relationships among the segments, portions and areas using a predetermined expression such as HTML," (Saitoh, col. 3, lines 58-61).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Omtzigt's teachings since the detecting unit would have detected the link information for the controlling unit to acquire data such as hypertext data.

**Regarding depend claim 19**, which is dependent on claim 17, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 17 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach an event generating unit for generating an event at an appointed time. Further, Sumita does not teach a data acquiring unit for acquiring other data from the location according to the link information stored in the designated information storage unit when the event generating unit generates the event.

However, Omtzigt teaches an event generating unit for generating an event at an appointed time. Omtzigt describes, "the vents are captured by event generating unit in real time while the events are taking place," (Omtzigt, col. 3, lines 61-64). Further Saitoh teaches a data acquiring unit for acquiring other data from the location according to the link information stored in the designated information storage unit when the event generating unit generates the event. Saitoh describes, "the image input unit inputs a text image into the automatic link generation system. The data storage unit stores the image data and other data. The structure expression unit expresses the structural or link relationships among the segments, portions and areas using a predetermined expression such as HTML," (Saitoh, col. 3, lines 55-61).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Omtzigt's teachings since the generating unit would have generated an event such that the linked information acquired would have been stored in the storage unit.

**Regarding dependent claim 21**, which is dependent on claim 17, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 17 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach an event detecting unit for detecting an appointed event. Further Sumita does not teach a data acquiring unit for acquiring the other data from the location according to the link information stored in the designated information storage unit when the event detecting unit detects an event.

However, Omtzigt teaches an event detecting unit for detecting an appointed event. Omtzigt describes, "the events are captured by event generating unit in real time while the events are taking place," (Omtzigt, col. 3, lines 62-64). Further Saitoh teaches data acquiring unit for acquiring the other data from the location according to the link information stored in the designated information storage unit when the event detecting unit detects an event. Saitoh describes, "the data storage unit stores the image data and other data. The structure expression unit expresses the structural or link relationships among the segments, portions and areas using a predetermined expression such as HTML, " Saitoh, col. 3, lines 57-61).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Omtzigt's teachings, since

the detecting unit would have detected the link information for the controlling unit to acquire data such as hypertext data.

**8. Claims 4, 14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sumita in view of Saitoh as applied to claims 1, 11 and 17 above, and further in view of Fukui et al. (Fukui), US 5,918,222 filed 03/15/1996.**

Regarding dependent claim 4, which is dependent on claim 1, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 1 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach a communication unit to connect with a network or an event generating unit for generating an event on condition that the communication unit having connected with the network, wherein the event is generated by the event generating unit, the data acquiring unit acquires the hypertext data from the location according to the location information and the other data indicated by the link information.

However, Fukui teaches a communication unit to connect with a network or an event generating unit for generating an event on condition that the communication unit having connected with the network, wherein the event is generated by the event generating unit, the data acquiring unit acquires the hypertext data from the location according to the location information and the other data indicated by the link information. Fukui describes, "the response generation unit generates a response as data such as a text, speech, an image, or a moving picture, or a combination thereof in accordance with the response plan sent from the response plan formation unit. The

response generation unit presents history information sent from the history management editing unit," (Fukui, col. 37, lines 57-63).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Fukui's teachings since each unit has a particular function that it is responsible for and all of these units has to be able to communicate over the network.

**Regarding dependent claim 14**, which is dependent on claim 11, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 11 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach an event generating unit that generates an event at an appointed time. Also, neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach a data acquiring unit for acquiring data from the location according to the link information stored in the information storage unit when the event generating unit generates the event.

However, Fukui teaches an event generating unit that generates an event at an appointed time. Fukui describes, "the response generation unit generates a response as data such as text, speech, an image, or a moving picture, or a combination thereof in accordance with the response plan sent from the response plan formation unit," (Fukui, col. 37, lines 57-60). Yoda teaches a data acquiring unit for acquiring data from the location according to the link information stored in the information storage unit when the event generating unit generates the event. Yoda describes, "the information storage unit temporarily stores such document information, and informs the link information extraction unit of reception of new document information," (Yoda, col. 6, lines 14-17).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh, Fukui and Yoda's teachings since generating an event would have specified a time for the acquiring unit to acquire data from the linked information at a certain point in time.

**Regarding dependent claim 20**, which is dependent on claim 17, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 17 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach a communication unit to connect with a network or teaches an event generating unit for generating an event on condition that the communication unit having connected with the network. Further, Sumita does not teach a data acquiring unit for acquiring the data from the location according to the link information stored in the designated information storage unit when the event generating unit generates the event.

However, Fukui teaches a communication unit to connect with a network. Fukui describes, "the demand reception unit on the user side receives an input such as text, speech, an image, or a moving picture through a communication means such as a network," (Fukui, col. 37, lines 24-27). Fukui also teaches event generating unit for generating an event on condition that the communication unit having connected with the network. Fukui describes, "the response generation unit generates a response as data such as a text, speech, an image, or a moving picture, or a combination thereof in accordance with response plan sent from the response plan formation unit," (Fukui, col. 37, lines 57-60). Further, Saitoh teaches a data acquiring unit for acquiring the data from the location according to the link information stored in the designated information storage unit when the event generating unit generates the event. Saitoh describes, "the data storage unit stores the image data and other data. The structure expression unit

expresses the structural or link relationships among the segments, portions and areas using a predetermined expression such as HTML," (Saitoh, col. 3, lines 55-61).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Fukui's teachings, since the plurality of units would have to be connected to the network for them to be able to communicate and transfer linked information and data to one another.

**9. Claims 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sumita in view of Yoda, US 5,890,173 filed 11/20/1996.**

**Regarding independent claim 7**, Sumita teaches a first information processing device comprising:

- a designating unit for designating informing data corresponding to the link informing data showing the presence of link information in hypertext data.  
Sumita describes, "a device for filtering information wherein presentation of the hypertexts by the presenting means is conducted on hypertexts of similarities computed," (Sumita, col. 7, lines 16-20).
- First information acquiring unit for acquiring information showing a location of the displayed hypertext data including the informing data designated by the designating unit. Sumita describes, "detecting means for detecting a hypertext, newly created or updated, among hypertexts from an hypertext with an address specified in advance," (Sumita, col. 6, lines 58-61).

- Second information acquiring unit for acquiring the link information specified by the informing data designated by the designating unit. Sumita describes, "second storage means for storing fundamental document data for detection of documents newly created or updated," (Sumita, col. 5, lines 26-27).

Sumita does not teach a transmitting unit for transmitting the location information, a receiving unit for receiving the location information and the link information of the hypertext data, or a data acquiring unit for acquiring the hypertext data from a location.

Yoda teaches:

- a transmitting unit for transmitting the location information acquired by the first information acquiring unit and the link information of the hypertext data acquired by the second information acquiring unit to a second information processing device. Yoda describes, "the information reception unit forms a message as a transmission request of stored information with respect to the storage location of document information input and designated by the user input unit, and transmits the message via the network line," (Yoda, col. 1, lines 63-67).
- A receiving unit for receiving the location information and the link information of the hypertext data, which have been transmitted from the first information processing device. Yoda describes, "the information reception unit waits until the requested document information is transmitted. Upon reception of the information, the information reception unit transfers the received information



to the information storage unit, which informs the print unit that the new information is stored," (Yoda, col. 1, lines 67, col. 2, lines 1-5).

- A data acquiring unit for acquiring the hypertext data from the location according to the received the location information and the other data indicated by the link information according to the received link information. Yoda describes, "upon reception of the information, the information reception unit transfers the received information to the information storage unit," (Yoda, col. 2, lines 2-5).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita and Saitoh's teachings, since a processor is needed in order to transfer link information from the acquire unit to the receiving unit where the hypertext will be stored.

**Regarding dependent claim 9**, which is dependent on claim 7, Sumita and Yoda teach the limitations of claim 7 as explained above. Yoda does not teach a storage unit for storing the location information and the link information both received by the receiving unit for the correspondence to each other. Nor does Yoda teaches the data acquiring unit acquires the hypertext data from the location according to the location information and the other data indicated by the link information.

However, Sumita teaches both of these elements of the claim. Sumita describes the first element, "a detecting unit for detecting a document, newly created or updated, among document data stored in the document database based on document data stored in the document database and the fundamental document data stored in the

reproduced document information storing unit," (Sumita, Abstract). Sumita describes the second element, "the reference document detecting unit detects documents which refer to top-nodes set in the monitored document address stored unit ... documents which each of obtained document refers to are obtained, so that the referring document can be obtained," (Sumita, col. 32, lines 23-58).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Sumita and Yoda's teachings since acquiring hypertext data would require some sort of linking information.

10. <sup>18,</sup> **Claims 8, 12, 13, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sumita in view of Yoda as applied to claims 7, 11 and 17 above, and further in view of Saitoh.**

**Regarding dependent claim 8**, which is dependent on claim 7, Sumita and Yoda teach the limitations of claim 7 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Yoda teach a storage unit for storing the location information acquired by the first information acquiring unit and the link information acquired by the second information acquiring unit for the correspondence to each other, wherein a transmitting unit transmits the location information and the link information of the hypertext data both stored in the storage unit to the second information processing unit.

However, Saitoh teaches a storage unit for storing the location information acquired by the first information acquiring unit and the link information acquired by the second information acquiring unit for the correspondence to each other, wherein a

transmitting unit transmits the location information and the link information of the hypertext data both stored in the storage unit to the second information processing unit. Saitoh describes, "the data storage unit stores the image data and other data. The structure expression unit expresses the structural or link relationships among the segments, portions and areas using a predetermined expression such as HTML," (Saitoh, col. 3, lines 56-61).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Sumita, Yoda and Saitoh's teachings since transmitting hypertext (HTML) on the network would require a processing unit to accomplish this task along with a storing unit to hold the hypertext data that had transmitted.

**Regarding dependent claim 12**, which is dependent on claim 11, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 11 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach a specific information storage unit for storing specific link information. Also, neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach a judging unit that judges the whether the other data should be acquired when the designated link information agree with the specific link information stored in the information storage unit.

However, Yoda teaches an information storage unit for storing specific link information. Yoda describes, "the link information extraction unit extracts link information from the stored document information," (Yoda, col. 6, lines 18-19). Yoda also teaches teach a judging unit that judges the whether the other data should be acquired when the designated link information agree with the specific link information

stored in the information storage unit. Yoda describes, "the link information extraction unit analyzes the stored first document information, extracts, as link information, the name of another document information to which the first document information is linked," (Yoda, col. 5, lines 65-67).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Yoda's teachings since the controlling unit would have controlled what linked information that the judging unit can use to examine or judge.

**Regarding dependent claim 13**, which is dependent on claim 12, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 12 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach a data storing unit to store other data, wherein the link information in the storage unit indicates the existence of a link to the other data stored in the storage unit.

However, Yoda teaches a data storing unit to store other data, wherein the link information in the storage unit indicates the existence of a link to the other data stored in the storage unit. Yoda describes, "the information storage unit temporarily stores such document information, and informs the link information extraction unit of reception of new document information," (Yoda, col. 6, lines 14-17).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Yoda's teachings since the stored link information data in storage would have been the data that the judging unit judged appropriate to extract.

**Regarding dependent claim 18**, which is dependent on claim 17, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 17 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach a data storing unit for storing other data, wherein the first specific link information is link information indicating an existence of a link to the other data stored in the data storing unit and the second specific link information is link information indicating an existence of a link to the other data present on a network.

However, Yoda teaches a data storing unit for storing other data, wherein the first specific link information is link information indicating an existence of a link to the other data stored in the data storing unit and the second specific link information is link information indicating an existence of a link to the other data present on a network. Yoda describes, "an information storage unit, a link information management unit, and information reception unit which is connected to a network line and receives information from an external document server, and a link information extraction unit," (Yoda, col. 1, lines 49-53).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Yoda's teachings, since specific link information and data acquired by the selecting unit would have to be stored in the storage unit so that the judging unit can determine the agreement or non-agreement of the link information.

**Regarding dependent claim 15**, which is dependent on claim 11, Sumita and Saitoh teach the limitations of claim 11 as explained above. Neither Sumita nor Saitoh teach a communication unit to connect with a network, an event generating unit for

Art Unit: 2176

generating an event connected with a network, and a data acquiring unit for acquiring data from the location according to the link information stored in the storage unit when the event generating unit generates the event.

However, Yoda teaches a communication unit to connect with a network, an event generating unit for generating an event connected with a network. Yoda describes, "the link information extraction unit analyzes the stored first document information, extracts, as link information, the name of another document information to which the first document information is linked," (Yoda, col. 5, lines 65-67). Yoda also teaches, a data acquiring unit for acquiring data from the location according to the link information stored in the storage unit when the event generating unit generates the event. Yoda describes, "the information storage unit temporarily stores such document information, and informs the link information extraction unit of reception of new document information," (Yoda, col. 6, lines 14-17).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sumita, Saitoh and Yoda's teachings since the plurality of units need to be connected to the network for them to be able to communicate a link necessary information together.

**Conclusion**

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

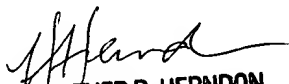
1. Sugita, US 6,272,500 B1 filed 07/18/1997.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phat T Bui whose telephone number is 703-305-5931. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, (8 - 5pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 703-308-5186. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.

PTB  
August 7, 2002

  
HEATHER R. HERNDON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100